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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/750,963

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Hidetoshi Kodama

Q79055

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23373

7590

11/21/2006

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EXAMINER

TRAN, LY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2853

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/750,963

Applicant(s)

KODAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Ly T. TRAN

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33-35, 37-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 33, 34, 37-39, 41 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipate by Asakura (JP 09086004A).

With respect to claims 33, 41 and 42, Asakura discloses a recording apparatus comprising:

- A recording head (element 4b), operable to perform a recording operation with respect to a recording medium including a first medium provided as a cut sheet (Fig.2: element 3) and a second medium provided as a rolled sheet form (fig.2: element5b9)
- A first sheet feeder, operable to feed the first medium stacked thereon to a first section in the first direction (Fig.7: element 3a)
- A second sheet feeder, adapted to be detachable attached to an upstream end portion of the first feeder relative to the first direction, and operable to feed the first region via the first sheet feeder (Fig.8: element 5b).

With respect to claim 34, Asakura discloses the second medium is fed to the recording section via the first sheet feeder (Fig.8).

With respect to claim 37, Ikeda discloses the first feeder comprised an edge guide member operable to commonly guide side edges of the first and second medium (fig.4: element 8)

With respect to claim 38, Asakura discloses the second medium is held by the second sheet feeder without a restriction force ((Fig.8: element 5b).

With respect to claim 39, Asakura discloses the second sheet feeder comprises a detachable shaft member adapted to be inserted in a core part of the second medium (Fig.8) and the shaft member comprises a flange member provided in at least one longitudinal end of the shaft member and formed with at least one flat portion (Fig.8: element 15).

2. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asakura (JP 0986004A) in view of Ono (JP 408133556A).

Asakura fails to teach third sheet feeder to feed a third medium in a cut sheet form having a length longer than a length of the first medium.

Ono teaches third sheet feeder to feed a third medium in a cut sheet form having a length longer than a length of the first medium (Fig.1: element 7, 8, Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the third feeder as taught by Ono. The motivation of doing so is the medium stands are extended completely for longer medium.

1. Claim 40 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda Asakura (JP 0986004A) in view of Edatsune (JP 11321016A).

Asakura fails to teach the cutter.

Edatsune teaches the cutter (fig.1: element 37).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a cutter as taught by Edatsune. The motivation of doing so is to obtain a desired recording result such as a high quality image can be printed at a low cost and the image has no blank portion.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claim 36 is allowed.

#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ly T. TRAN whose telephone number is 571-272-2155. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30am-5pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on 571-272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LT

November 14, 2006



**STEPHEN MEIER**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**